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at least one brake connected for acting directly on the output of the at least one variable speed mechanical gear stage for locking the output and thereby preventing rotation of the output during parking of the vehicle;

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wherein at least one of said gear stage and said brake are arranged inside the rotor of the electric motor and the other of said gear stage and said brake are arranged laterally outside the electric motor so as to be arranged coaxially therewith and in substantially the same plane.